



Legal History in Asia and Beyond
Asian Legal History Conference
17 – 18 March 2026
Program

Day 1: 17 March 2026 (13:00 – 17:30)

CUHK Graduate Law Centre (GLC), 2nd Floor, Bank of America Tower
12 Harcourt Rd, Central, Hong Kong Island

13:00-14:00	<p>Introduction to the Conference and Keynote Address (Venue: GLC Moot Court)</p> <p>Introduction and Welcome to CUHK</p> <p>Professor Renisa Mawani, Canada Research Chair in Colonial Legal Histories, University of British Columbia</p> <p><i>Title: The Time of Emergency in Colonial India, Burma, and Siam, 1914-1921</i></p>		
14:00-14:15	<p>Break</p>		
	<p>Venue: GLC Moot Court</p>	<p>Venue: Lecture Theatre 1</p>	<p>Venue: Classroom 5</p>
14:15-15:45	<p>1.1 From Socialist Labour Discipline to Legal Governance: Historical Trajectories of PRC Labour Law</p> <p><u>Chen Yifeng, Associate Professor, Peking University</u></p> <p><i>Beyond Production Safety: The Evolving Laws on Occupational Health and Safety in China</i></p> <p>Lutz-Christian Wolff, Wei-Lun Professor, CUHK</p> <p><i>From Fixed Labor Relationships towards a Free Labor Market: The Introduction of a Labor Contract System in the People's Republic of China in 1986</i></p>	<p>1.2 Chinese Legal Histories</p> <p><u>Norman Ho, Professor, Peking University School of Transnational Law</u></p> <p><i>The Legal Thought of Ch'oe Ch'in'wŏn (857-c.10th century AD) and Tang-Silla Interactions</i></p> <p>Yunyan Zheng, Professor, China University of Political Science and Law</p> <p><i>Studies of Judicial Cases Published in the English Translation of the "Peking Gazette"</i></p>	<p>1.3 Women's Rights in Law</p> <p><u>Sehar Kwaja, Assistant Professor, Mahindra University & Ms. Tatheer Fatima Assistant Professor, Mahindra University</u></p> <p><i>Women, Law, and Performance of Justice in Colonial India</i></p> <p>Thi Nha Nam Bach, Lecturer, Vietnam National University</p> <p><i>From Feudal Legacies to Modern Litigation: Women's Inheritance Rights in the Legal History of Vietnam</i></p>



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	<p>Dr. Jin Zhao, University of Economics and Business, Law School, Beijing, China</p> <p><i>China's Evolving Sexual Harassment Law in the Workplace: History and Gridlock</i></p> <p>Piotr Grzebyk, Professor, University of Warsaw</p> <p><i>Historical and Comparative Perspectives of Labour Law Codification: European and Asian Patterns as Lessons for Future (Re)Codification Debates in China</i></p>	<p>Xiaogui Zhang, Professor, Jinan University</p> <p><i>A Study on the Legal Status of Sogdian Women in Medieval Times</i></p> <p>Li Yan, LLM Graduate, CUHK; Tianjin Justice Bureau</p> <p><i>Naturalness of Ancient Chinese Law: Superstition or a Gift from Our Ancestors?</i></p> <p>Yilan Hu, LLM Candidate, Sapienza University of Rome</p> <p><i>Past Institutions, Present Challenges: Historical Evolution of Environmental Courts in the Yangtze River Basin</i></p>	<p>Zhuo Li, PhD Candidate, Xi'an Jiaotong University</p> <p><i>A Study on the Transformation of Women's Litigation Rights and Status in Qing Dynasty and Republic of China</i></p> <p>Manisha Aswal, PhD Candidate, National Law University Delhi</p> <p><i>Revisiting the Sabarimala Judgement: Framing Women's Right to Temple Entry vis-à-vis Dalit Temple Entry Movements</i></p> <p>Surbhi Karwa, PhD Candidate, University of New South Wales</p> <p><i>We are All Sisters under Saree: Article 15(3), Women's Reservation, and the Indian Constituent Assembly.</i></p>
15:45-16:00	Break		
16:00-17:30	<p>2.1 Legal Education, Performance and Transfer in the British Empire</p> <p><u>Donal Coffey, Assistant Professor, Maynooth University</u></p> <p><i>Public Law and Empire in Inter-War Britain</i></p> <p>George Radics, Senior Lecturer, NUS</p>	<p>2.2 International Legal Histories</p> <p><u>Ignacio de la Rasilla, Professor, Wuhan University</u></p> <p><i>China's International Law and the Third World During the Cold War 2.0</i></p> <p>Douglas de Castro, Professor, Lanzhou University</p>	<p>2.3 Legal Pluralisms</p> <p><u>Coleman Dennehy, Lecturer, Dundalk Institute of Technology</u></p> <p><i>Legal and Cultural Encounters – Indigenous Irish Law, English Common Law, and the Clash of Civilisations</i></p> <p>Jose Duke Bagulaya, Lecturer, Education University of Hong Kong</p>



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	<p><i>Criminalizing “Sin” - Indonesia’s 2022 Criminal Code amendments and its Colonial Roots</i></p> <p>Erica O. Read, PhD Candidate, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory</p> <p><i>Speaking the Law: Communication, Ritual, and the Performance of Authority in Colonial India (1833–1903)</i></p> <p>Juma Noah Omollo, PhD Candidate, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory</p> <p><i>Trajectories and Pitstops of Empire: The Transfer of Law from Britain through India to East Africa</i></p> <p>Celeste Lo, Postdoctoral Fellow, City University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Lessons from an Imperial Past: The Enduring Relevance of the Doctrine of Paramount Force and the Applicability of the PRC Constitution in Hong Kong</i></p>	<p><i>Multiple Paternities: Genghis Khan as one of the Fathers of International Law</i></p> <p>Alexandr Svetlicinii, Associate Professor, University of Macau & Prof. Xueji Su, Research Assistant Professor, University of Macau</p> <p><i>Global Governance of Dual Use Items: A Neoliberal Equilibrium between Trade Law and Non-Proliferation Regimes</i></p> <p>Wenjiao Cao, Lecturer, China Foreign Affairs University</p> <p><i>China’s Participation in the Advisory Proceedings in International Judicial Bodies (1922–2025)</i></p> <p>Dongyu Sun, PhD Candidate, Australian National University</p> <p><i>Constructing Semi-Colonialism in International Law</i></p>	<p><i>Between legal pluralism and special law: Contextualizing Colonial Codifications of Crimes in Late 19th Century Dutch East Indies and Spanish Philippines</i></p> <p>Severo C. Madrona Jr., Lecturer, Ateneo de Manila</p> <p><i>Manila as Legal Crossroads: Chinese, Filipino, American, and Spanish Law in Contact</i></p> <p>Kachun Alex Wong & Mutaru Amidu, PhD Candidates, University of Toronto</p> <p><i>Customary law reform in British late-imperialism: The customary law movement in colonial Hong Kong and the restatement of African Law project in Gold Coast (Ghana) in the 1950s-1970</i></p>
<p>18:00-20:00</p>	<p>Dinner</p>		



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Day 2: 18 March 2026 (9:00 – 18:30)

Faculty of Law, 5th & 6th Floors, Lee Shau Kee Building (LSK)
CUHK Main Campus, Sha Tin, New Territories

9:00-9:45	Keynote Address (Venue: LSK Moot Court) Keynote: Wang Zhiqiang, Professor, Fudan University Law School <i>Title: From Chinese Legal History to Global Legal History</i>		
9:45-10:00	Break		
	Venue: LSK Moot Court (5 th Floor)	Venue: LSK Boardroom (6 th Floor)	Venue: Breakout Room 508
10:00-11:30	3.1 Land, Labor and the Welfare State	3.2 International Economic Law Histories	3.3 Discipline, Punishment and Due Process
	<p><u>Kentaro Matsubara, Professor, University of Tokyo</u> <i>From Self-Orientalism to Reverse-Orientalism: Challenges in Comparative Legal History</i></p> <p>Prakhar Ganguly, PhD Candidate, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory <i>Lessons from the Civil-Punitive Past: Reimagining Labour Law beyond Welfare</i></p> <p>Dinh Duc Nguyen, PhD Student, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong</p>	<p><u>Steve Gallagher, Professor, CUHK</u> <i>Sic semper tyrannis! The Rule Against Perpetuities in Hong Kong</i></p> <p>Yaroslava Kuchina, Associate Professor, Far Eastern Federal University <i>Building State Capacity: The Historical Development of Financial Surveillance and Regulatory Institutions in BRICS Nations in the Digital Age</i></p> <p>Kieu Phuong Dung Ha, Lecturer, Ho Chi Minh City University of Law</p>	<p><u>Sarah Bishop, Postdoctoral Fellow, NUS</u> <i>Political Prisoners and Criminal Justice Process Rights in the 1949 Thai Constitution</i></p> <p>Emmanuel Caliwan, Associate Professor, Philippine College of Criminology <i>From Harmony to Punishment, and Back Again</i></p> <p>Nicole van Zyl, PhD Candidate, University of Western Cape <i>Montagu as Missionary: The Introduction of the 1844 Rules for Convict Discipline in the Cape of Good Hope, and its presence in modern-day punishment</i></p>



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	<p><i>The Historical Development of Land Ownership Regimes in Vietnam: From Công Điền (Communal Land) to Modern Land Laws</i></p> <p>Tomy Michael, Lecturer, University of 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya</p> <p><i>The Welfare State in the Pancasila Ideology</i></p> <p>Lau Yi Chan, JD Graduate, CUHK</p> <p><i>Public Housing Allocation and Social Equity: A Comparative Analysis of Singapore and Hong Kong's Problematic Housing Systems (1953-2024)</i></p>	<p><i>Public-Private Synergies in China and Asean Legal History: Reimagining the Entrepreneurial State in the Semiconductor Era</i></p> <p>Carolina Fabara, Researcher, Sun Yat Sen University</p> <p><i>Contractual Law, Transnational Dispute Resolution, and the Rise of Arbitration: Lessons from China's Engagement with the World</i></p>	<p>Junqiao Zhao, LLM Student, CUHK</p> <p><i>From Exclusion to Discipline: Governing the Poor and Vagrant in Early Nineteen-Century Britain</i></p> <p>Tianqi Huang, LLM Student, CUHK</p> <p><i>What Keeps Koreans Silent: A Study of the Brothers' Home Scandal</i></p>
<p>11:30-11:45</p>	<p>Break</p>		
<p>11:45-13:15</p>	<p>4.1 Attempts to Establish Order Through Law (and Their Limits)</p> <p><u>Luke Marsh, Associate Professor, CUHK & Jeremy Dein, Honorary Visiting Professor, CUHK</u></p> <p><i>Adversarial Traditions in Transition: Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Vulnerable Witness Testimony</i></p> <p>Chris Munn, (Hon.) Associate Professor, HKU</p> <p><i>Legalized Violence: Corporal Punishment in Colonial Hong Kong</i></p>	<p>4.2 Family Law and the State</p> <p><u>Weilin Xiao, Assistant Professor, HKU</u></p> <p><i>Political Origins of Prohibited Degrees: Four Societies and Four Hundred Years</i></p> <p>Zhang Shengze, Lecturer, China Women's University</p> <p><i>The State, the Family, and Legal Discourse: The Process of Republicanization in Chinese Family Law Legislation</i></p> <p>Gülce Ecem Uçar, Teaching and Research Assistant, Ankara University</p>	<p>4.3 South Asian Critical Legal Histories</p> <p><u>Adithya Variath, Assistant Professor, Jindal Global Law School</u></p> <p><i>From Colonial Mines to Cosmic Claims: Lessons from Asia's Colonial Extraction for Equitable Space Resource Governance</i></p> <p>Vidhi Madaan Chadda, Associate Professor, University of Delhi</p> <p><i>De-notified Tribal Communities in India: History, Social Stigma and Law</i></p>



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	<p>Billy Esratian, PhD Candidate, Australian National University</p> <p><i>From Colonialism to Emotive Retributivism: Evolution of Indonesia's Capital Punishment</i></p> <p>Toby Bull, PhD Candidate, CUHK</p> <p><i>Fraternal Shadows: A Study of the Relationship Between Triads, Freemasons, and the Police in British Colonial Hong Kong, 1841-1997</i></p>	<p><i>Underlying Reason of the Prohibition of Abortion in the Ottoman Empire: The Right to be Born with Sustenance Ordained by God, or the Duty to Provide Sustenance for the State?</i></p> <p>Shurun Lin, PCLL Candidate, CUHK</p> <p><i>Bound with the Weight of the Words: Liberalisation of Criminal Abortion in Hong Kong</i></p> <p>Han Lu, LLM Candidate & Research Assistant, University of New South Wales</p> <p><i>Historical Pathways of Youth Restorative Justice: Unequal Voice Structures in Australia and China</i></p>	<p>Ashish Ransom, Assistant Professor, University of Assam & Arvind Kumar, PhD Candidate, University of Victoria</p> <p><i>Listening to the 'Original Inhabitants' of India: Rethinking Decolonization through Adivasi and Tribal Epistemologies, Legal Histories, and Laws</i></p> <p>Madhavan Sunil, PhD Student, History Department, University of Delhi</p> <p><i>Law, Property and Subaltern Agency: Inland Fisheries Legislation in Twentieth-century Southwest India</i></p>
13:15-14:15	Lunch		

14:15-15:45	5.1 Labor and Immigration Law Histories	5.2 Asian Corporate Law Histories	5.3 Histories of the Law of the Sea
	<p><u>Yueming Yan, Assistant Professor, CUHK</u></p> <p><i>Legal Histories of Labour Standards in Trade: Lessons from the Past for the Present</i></p> <p>Trang TK Tran, Lecturer, Deakin University & John Howe, Professor, University of Melbourne</p>	<p><u>Wenjing Chen, Associate Prof, East China University of Political Science and Law</u></p> <p><i>The Myth of Chinese Company Law: Legal Transplants from the West and Culture Inheritance from the East</i></p> <p>Jeemin Song, Assistant Prof, Kyonggi University</p>	<p><u>Nathan Perl-Rosenthal, Professor, University of Southern California</u></p> <p><i>Sovereign Encounters: The European Prize Law Regime in Maritime Asia, C17-C20</i></p> <p>Stefano Cattelan, Postdoctoral Researcher/Adjunct Professor, Vrije Universiteit Brussel</p>

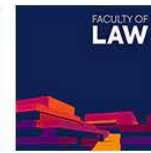
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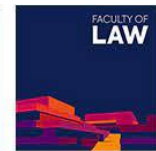
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	<p><i>International Influence and Endogenous Developments in the History of Labour Dispute Resolution Systems in Southeast Asia</i></p> <p>Thi Thuy Duong Tran, Dean of International Law Faculty, Ho Chi Minh City University of Law & Xuan My Hien Nguyen, Lecturer, Ho Chi Minh City University of Law</p> <p><i>From village custom to international commitments – A legal history study of labor rights protection in Vietnam</i></p> <p>Qingyun Zhao, PhD Candidate, HKU</p> <p><i>Towards an “Immigrant China”? A Study of Citizenship Laws and Naturalisation Regime in the Nationalist Era (c. 1928–1949) with Implications for the Present</i></p> <p>Dinh Duc Nguyen, PhD Student, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Second-Class Justice: A Legal Historical Study of Migrant Domestic Helper Judgments in Post-1997 Hong Kong</i></p>	<p><i>From Formalism to Fiduciary Duty: Navigating the Hybrid Identity of Korean Corporate Law</i></p> <p>Jinyi Zheng, PhD Candidate, Tsinghua University Law School</p> <p><i>Merchants Unlimited and the State Limited: The Origins of the Private Limited Liability Company in Modern China</i></p> <p>Ningyuan Wang, PhD Candidate, HKU</p> <p><i>Merchants against the State: One Aspect of the Merchant-State Relationship in Trademark Protection in Republican China (1912-1928)</i></p>	<p><i>Recasting the Maritime Order: Eurocentrism, Empire, and Asian Horizons in the Early Modern Law of the Sea</i></p> <p>Sasha Allison, Barrister, HK</p> <p><i>The Lumbering Machinery of the Hong Kong Vice-Admiralty Court of 1847 – 1849</i></p>
<p>15:45-16:00</p>	<p>Break</p>		
<p>16:00-17:30</p>	<p>6.1 Histories of Constitutionalism, Judicial Review, and Theories of Law</p>	<p>6.2 Critical International Legal Histories</p>	<p>6.3 (In)Equalities in Marriage and the Protection of the Law</p>



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<p><u>Andrew Harding, Professor, National University of Singapore</u></p> <p><i>The Common Law in Malaya: Transplant and Adaptation</i></p> <p>Ding-I Lee, Visiting Scholar, NYU School of Law</p> <p><i>Following the “Democracies”: An Untold History of Early Judicial Reviews in the Republic of China, 1948–1987</i></p> <p>Hai Ho Truong, Director of Institute of State and Law, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics</p> <p><i>From Constitutional Opening to Institutionalisation: Administrative Adjudication in Viet Nam (1980–2002)</i></p> <p>Ocean Sze Hong Lam, Postdoctoral Researcher, NUS</p> <p><i>The making of an ‘Internationalised’ Constitution: Revisiting British Influence behind the Drafting of Hong Kong’s Basic Law</i></p> <p>Wei Xiao, Postdoctoral Research, Wuhan University</p> <p><i>Between Form and Will: The Political Genesis of Jbering’s “Damaskuserlebnis”</i></p>	<p><u>Peera Charoenvattananukul, Associate Professor, Thammasat University</u></p> <p><i>Juridical Performativity as a Political Strategy: The Thai State’s Legal Enforcement of Japanese Officials during the Pacific War</i></p> <p>Mustakimur Rahman, Associate Professor & Chairman, Notre Dame University Bangladesh</p> <p><i>Genocide and Accountability: Lessons from the Bangladesh Liberation War Trials in Global Legal History</i></p> <p>Lucas Brang, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Freiburg, Institute of Chinese Studies</p> <p><i>The Death of the Stimson Doctrine? Lessons from the Sino-Japanese Conflict for Contemporary International Law</i></p> <p>Yvette Foo, Research Associate, NUS</p> <p><i>Cautious, Consensus-Driven Commitment: Contextualising ASEAN’s 30-Year Evolution in Extradition Cooperation from Political Aspiration to Formal Treaty</i></p>	<p><u>Lorenz Timothy Ranera, Assistant Professor, University of the Philippines</u></p> <p><i>Women and State in Reforming the Anti-Rape Law in the Postcolonial Philippines</i></p> <p>Aigul Chikanayeva, Senior Lecturer, Caspian University</p> <p><i>Codifying Patriarchy, Legislating Equality: Lessons from the Legal History of Marriage in Kazakhstan</i></p> <p>Priya Rathi, Research Scholar, Jamia Millia Islamia</p> <p><i>The Long-Forgotten Correlative Duty: Revisiting the Tort of Alienation of Affection</i></p> <p>Alex Chanhou Lou, Research Fellow, University of Macau</p> <p><i>Intimacy, Private–Family Life, and Macao’s Basic Law: A Legal History Account of Article 30(2)</i></p>
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17:30- 18:15	Keynote Professor Chin Leng Lim, Choh-Ming Li Professor, CUHK <i>Title: Which Branch of History is Your Law In?</i>
18:15- 18:30	Concluding Remarks